

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has delineated the following inventions as being patentably distinct.

Group I: Claims 1-17, drawn to a composition, classified in class 430, subclass 270.1.

Group II: Claims 18 and 19, drawn to a process of producing a medical instrument and the instrument prepared, classified in class 427, subclass 2.1.

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed May 5, 2008, Applicants elect without traverse Group I, Claims 1-17, drawn to a composition.

Further, Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected subject matter, if so desired, and be accorded the benefit of the filing date of the present application.

Divisional applications filed thereafter should not be subject to double-patenting ground of rejection, 35 U.S.C. §121, In re Joyce (Commr. Pat. 1957) 115 USPQ 412.

Applicants submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and an early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.


Respectfully submitted,

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